common maſs of mankind—yet, have they not, and are they not ſtill treated with a degree of reverence that is an inſult to reaſon? China is not the only country where a living man has been made a God. *Men* have ſubmitted to ſuperiour ſtrength to enjoy with impunity the pleaſure of the moment—*women* have only done the ſame, and therefore till it is proved that the courtier, who ſervilely reſigns the birthright of a man, is not a moral agent, it cannot be demonſtrated that woman is eſſentially inferior to man becauſe ſhe has always been ſubjugated.

Brutal force has hitherto governed the world, and that the ſcience of politics is in its infancy, is evident from philoſophers ſcrupling to give the knowledge moſt uſeful to man that determinate diſtinction.

I ſhall not purſue this argument any further than to eſtabliſh an obvious inference, that as ſound politics diffuſe liberty, mankind, including woman, will become more wiſe and virtuous.

CHAP.

CHAP. III.

THE SAME SUBJECT CONTINUED.

BODILY ſtrength from being the diſtinction of heroes is now ſunk into ſuch unmerited contempt, that men, as well as women, ſeem to think it unneceſſary: the latter, as it takes from their feminine graces, and from that lovely weakneſs, the ſource of their undue power; and the former, becauſe it appears inimical with the character of a gentleman.

That they have both by departing from one extreme run into another, may eaſily be proved; but firſt it may be proper to obſerve, that a vulgar error has obtained a degree of credit, which has given force to a falſe concluſion, in which an effect has been miſtaken for a cauſe.

People of genius have, very frequently, impaired their conſtitutions by ſtudy or careleſs inattention to their health, and the violence of their paſſions bearing a proportion to the vigour of their intellects, the ſword's deſtroying